

LOS ANGELES
TIMES

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149R000100520010-6

M-039,735

S-1-165,306
FEB 18 1967

NSA Leaders Demand Federal Apology for CIA Infiltration

Officers, 'Sickened and Disgusted,' Ask President to Rule Entire Student Movement Off-Limits to Agency

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WASHINGTON—National Student Assn. leaders Friday completed a preliminary investigation of the infiltration of their organization by the Central Intelligence Agency and then, "disgusted" and "sickened" at what they found, called on the government to apologize.

They demanded an apology to class after class of American students who, during the past decade and a half, had supplied what the leaders indicated they believe were unwitting dupes for the agency's clandestine activities.

Sam Brown, chairman of the national supervisory board of NSA and a Harvard divinity student, and W. Eugene Groves, NSA president, conducted a press conference in the lobby of a motel six blocks from the White House.

Off-Limits Declaration

They called on President Johnson to declare the entire student movement off-limits to the CIA just as they said he had done with the Peace Corps.

They also asked that all CIA files relating to how it entered into the student movement be declassified.

They pledged to continue purging their organization of CIA influence. For openers in this respect, they said they had directed their attorneys to renegotiate the lease on NSA's Washington headquarters to remove CIA funds as one source of rent payment. They said they had discovered CIA money was used for this purpose.

Then they disclosed the scope and depth of the CIA's penetration which they said they had discovered within the past three days.

Students Abroad Used

Not only was the agency financing anti-Communist propaganda campaigns, Brown said, it was also using students studying abroad on NSA scholarships to gather intelligence that ultimately found its way into CIA files.

Going beyond that, Brown said, it eventually gained such tight control over some student operatives that they began working more for the CIA than NSA in their overseas assignments. They began carrying out specified missions and their loyalties to the agency exceeded their loyalties to the student movement, he said.

The funds the CIA poured into the organization over the years—sometimes as much as 80% of all the organization's annual budget and, in total, conservatively estimated at more than \$1 million — were passed through seemingly innocent foundations, the NSA leaders said.

"You look at the Foundation for Youth and Students," Brown said, referring to one of the foundations the CIA used, "and you find it gave money to all kinds of organizations including the YMCA and YWCA. How could we know?"

"Do you feel you've been had?" a reporter asked.

"Exactly," he replied.

Brown was saying in this exchange that students looking at the obviously untainted recipients of funds from these foundations, had no way of knowing the CIA origins of NSA funds.

Shedding some light on the role that Vice President Humphrey played in helping NSA replace agen-

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cy funds with other support, Brown said he could find no evidence that the Vice President had been told of the CIA's involvement with the student organization.

Asked for help in raising money, Humphrey wrote letters to friends recommending the organization as a worthy cause, Brown said.

Brown also pledged NSA's cooperation in any public investigation of its relationship with the CIA. He could not be specific on just how much money the CIA had given the organization because, he said, financial records before 1959 were hard to follow.

In Washington there are hints that additional foundations, the labor movement and newspapers have been involved with the CIA. Now that the students have broken their covenant with the agency, at the risk of prosecution under the National Security Act, the question is will others do likewise?

The White House has been firm in its policy of no comment on the situation, referring questioners to Nicholas D. Katzenbach, undersecretary of state and the man appointed to handle the problem by the President. The state Department said Katzenbach's three-man panel had begun its investigation but had no deadline for completion.